

(F2)

Atty. Dkt. No. 052546-0169



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Robert GILSON and  
Robert NORTON

Title: PROBE TIP ALIGNMENT FOR  
PRECISION LIQUID HANDLER

Appl. No.: 10/737,171

Filing Date: 12/16/2003

Art Unit: 2856

<p><b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</b></p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below.</p> <p>Kathryn E. Cox (Printed Name)</p> <p><i>Kathryn E. Cox</i> (Signature)</p> <p>August 25, 2004 (Date of Deposit)</p>
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document, except as noted below, is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The USPTO has waived the requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(i) to submit copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications when citing and submitting an Information Disclosure Statements in a patent application filed after June 30, 2003 and in an international application that has entered the national stage under 37 USC §371 after June 30, 2003. Accordingly, copies of these types of documents are not being supplied in connection with this application. Reference is being made to OG Notice dated August 5, 2003, *Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003.*

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

### **TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

### **RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

All of the documents are in English.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-2350. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 50-2350.

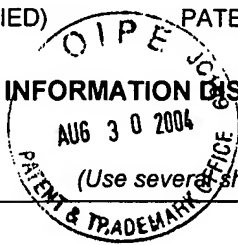
Respectfully submitted,

Date August 25, 2004

By Kathryn E. Cox

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Form PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 052546-0169		SERIAL NO. 10/737,171	
 <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT Robert GILSON and Robert NORTON			
				FILING DATE 12/16/2003		GROUP ART UNIT 2856	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		3,650,306	3/21/72	Lancaster			
		4,106,911	8/15/78	Marcelli			
		4,931,402	6/5/90	Abplanalp			
		5,104,621	4/14/92	Pfost <i>et al.</i>			
		5,227,137	7/13/02	Monti <i>et al.</i>			
		5,270,210	12/14/93	Weyrauch <i>et al.</i>			
		5,290,521	3/1/94	DeStefano			
		5,443,792	8/27/95	Buhler			
		5,460,783	10/24/95	Hautea <i>et al.</i>			
		5,529,754	6/25/96	Bonacina <i>et al.</i>			
		5,770,157	6/23/98	Cargill <i>et al.</i>			
		5,935,859	8/10/99	Elliot <i>et al.</i>			
		5,948,359	9/7/99	Karla <i>et al.</i>			
		5,962,329	10/5/99	Ershov <i>et al.</i>			
		6,045,760	4/4/00	Aizawa <i>et al.</i>			
		6,103,518	8/15/00	Leighton			
		6,132,582	10/17/00	King <i>et al.</i>			
		6,254,826	7/3/01	Acosta <i>et al.</i>			
		6,255,116	7/3/01	Leber <i>et al.</i>			
		6,255,119	7/3/01	Baier			
		6,416,719	7/9/02	Fawcett <i>et al.</i>			
		6,474,181	11/5/02	Gilson <i>et al.</i>			
		2001/0008615	7/19/01	Little <i>et al.</i>			
		2001/0019845	9/6/01	Bienert <i>et al.</i>			

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<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b> <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>							
		International Search Report for PCT/US01/50799, mailed May 6, 2002.					
		Supplementary European Search Report, EP 01 27 3380, completed January 21, 2004.					
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			
* <b>EXAMINER:</b> Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include any copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							